

THE BAPTIST Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Great Commission report is released

By William H. Perkins Jr.
Editor

The Great Commission Resurgence Task Force of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) released a long-awaited final report on the morning of May 3 proclaiming, "A world of lostness is waiting—what are we waiting for?"

"In every generation, Southern Baptists have been called to reclaim our identity as a Great Commission movement of churches. Now is the time for this generation to answer the same call—to make an unconditional commitment to reach the nations for Christ, to plant and serve Gospel churches in North America and around the world, and to mobilize Southern Baptists as Great Commission people," the report states in the opening paragraph of the 27-page report.

How to accomplish that goal will be debated in June when the report is presented to messengers to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Orlando, Fla. While some components of the report will likely be met with acclamation, such as the call for Christ-likeness, truth, unity, self-sacrifice, and trust as core values, other parts of the report may be challenged, such as folding all giving by a church into a non-Cooperative Program category called Great Commission Giving, and the proposal that local Baptist associa-

tions and state conventions adopt the 2000 version of the Baptist Faith and Message "as a confessional basis for cooperation."

The report can be downloaded and read in its entirety at www.Pray4GCR.com.

The report calls for stronger support of the Cooperative Program and a "return to the historic ideal of a 50/50 Cooperative Program distribution between the state conventions and the SBC."

The report makes specific recommendations for the North American Mission Board, headquartered in suburban Atlanta, and the International Mission Board, based in Richmond, Va. "The reinvention of the North American Mission Board that we envision will implement a missional strategy for planting churches in North America with a priority to reach metropolitan areas and underserved people groups," the report states.

The task force also proposes messengers lift the policy restrictions that prevent the International Mission Board from ministering to as many as 586 unreached and underserved people groups in North America. "We believe that restriction fits the past far better than the present, much less the future," the report states.

The final report also contains Great Commission "challenges" for individual Christians, individual families, local churches and pastors, local associations, state conventions, LifeWay Christian

Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention, Southern Baptist seminaries, the Ethics and Religious Liberties Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, GuideStone Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention, and Southern Baptist leaders.

In a conference call with Baptist journalists on the morning of May 4, Task Force Chairman Ronnie Floyd, pastor of First Church, Springdale, Ar., said the final report on the Pray4GCR web site has generated eight times as many downloads in the first 24 hours after release as the earlier progress report that appeared on the site.

"There's a lot of interest out here in what we're doing. There are a lot of Baptists that are very committed to the Great Commission and they really want to see great things happen for the Lord," he said.

The Great Commission Resurgence Task Force was appointed by SBC President Johnny Hunt, pastor of First Church in Woodstock, Ga., after messengers approved a motion at the 2009 SBC annual meeting in Louisville, Ky., charging the task force "to bring a report... concerning how Southern Baptists can work more faithfully and effectively together in serving Christ through the Great Commission."

No Mississippi Baptists were appointed to the 23-member committee.

Baptists helping storm victims in northeast Mississippi



Members of the Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief Task Force set up the mass feeding kitchen at Harmony Church, Walnut, after tornadoes moved through the area over the weekend and killed a number of people in northeast Mississippi, western Tennessee, and Kentucky. The mass feeding kitchen is a fully self-contained 18-wheeler capable of preparing thousands of meals per day. The kitchen has its own supplies of potable water, propane, and electricity. Mississippi Baptist volunteers will staff the kitchen as long as there is a need for meals for storm victims and emergency workers. (Special photo courtesy of Brian Tatum)

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6, 2010
OL. 134
No. 18

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MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

IMB announces
missionary appt.
service in Miss.

RICHMOND, Va. (Special)—The International Mission Board (IMB) of the Southern Baptist Convention will conduct a missionary appointment service for 21 of Southern Baptists' newest international missionaries at 6:30 p.m. on May 6 at First Church, Jackson. The church and the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board will serve as hosts. The service will feature testimonies from the new missionaries and a charge from native Mississippian Jerry Rankin, IMB president. It will be Rankin's final appointment service as IMB president; he has announced his plans to retire in July and return to Mississippi.

Argument over Ca. war memorial wears on

WASHINGTON (BP) — The U.S. Supreme Court has overturned a lower court ruling that rejected a congressional attempt to protect the display of a cross on federal land in California.

Defenders of the cross, which has stood for 75 years as a World War I memorial on a federal preserve in the Mojave Desert, commended the high court's April 28 decision but said it fell short of a complete victory.

In a 5-4 vote, the justices decided a federal judge was mistaken in ruling that a 2004 federal law which transferred the property on which the cross stands to a private organization, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), violated an injunction that permanently blocked display of the cross.

The judge had barred the federal government from completing the land transfer, and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the judge's ruling in 2007. The cross has been covered for about eight years, most of that time by a plywood box.

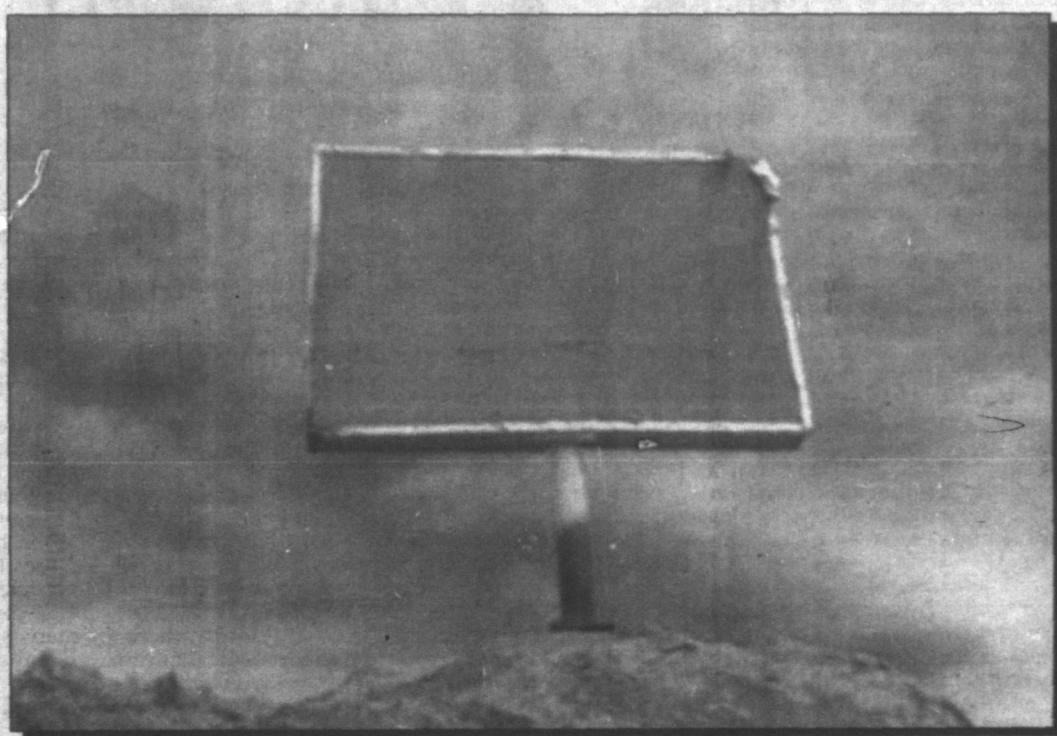
The high court, with Associate Justice Anthony Kennedy writing the opinion, returned the case to the federal court for further consideration in light of Congress' effort to remedy concerns that display of the cross constitutes a government establishment of religion.

Jordan Lorence, senior counsel for the Alliance Defense Fund (ADF), told reporters outside the court building, "The decision is favorable as far as it goes, but the Supreme Court didn't go far enough. The box needs to come off that cross... [T]he ACLU and its allies should not be allowed to eradicate and demolish religious symbols that acknowledge our religious heritage, acknowledge the sacrifice of our military heroes, based on the fact that one person is offended by what he sees there."

Lorence called the covering of the cross "an embarrassment. They act like the cross is something radioactive that they have to protect people from."

The ACLU expressed disappointment in the decision but encouragement that the case is still active. "We will continue to argue that the land transfer did not remedy the violation of the Establishment Clause," Peter Eliasberg of the ACLU of Southern California said in a written statement. "The cross is unquestionably a sectarian symbol, and it is wrong for the government to make such a deliberate effort to maintain it as a national memorial."

The federal court failed to give due consideration to the importance of Congress' land-transfer law, Kennedy wrote for the court in *Salazar v. Buono*.



AT THE CROSS — The Mojave Desert cross, a World War I memorial in California, currently is covered due to a judge's order that the U.S. Supreme Court has returned to lower courts for further consideration. Cross supporters applauded the high court's ruling but noted it was only a partial victory. (BP photo courtesy of courtzero.org)

"Even if, contrary to the congressional judgment, the land transfer were thought an insufficient accommodation in light of the earlier finding of religious endorsement, it was incumbent upon the District Court to consider less drastic relief than complete invalidation of the land-transfer statute," Kennedy wrote.

Kennedy, however, did not seem to agree with the lower court's opinion that the cross violated the ban on government establishment of religion. "The goal of avoiding governmental endorsement does not require eradication of all religious symbols in the public realm," he wrote.

"The Constitution does not oblige government to avoid any public acknowledgment of religions' role in society. Rather, it leaves room to accommodate divergent values within a constitutionally permissible framework."

Writing in dissent, Associate Justice John Paul Stevens said Congress' transfer of the land "will not end the pre-existing government endorsement of the cross."

The land transfer, plus the erection of signs and fences designating the property's owner, "would not completely end the government endorsement of this cross, as the land would have been transferred in a manner favoring the cross and the cross would remain designated as a national memorial," Stevens wrote.

Also dissenting were Associate Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer,

and Sonia Sotomayor. Joining in Kennedy's judgment were Chief Justice John Roberts and Associate Justices Antonin Scalia, Clarence Thomas, and Samuel Alito.

Alito wrote a concurring opinion that went beyond Kennedy's decision, saying he would uphold the land-transfer law and not return the case to the federal court. Scalia also wrote a concurring opinion saying Frank Buono, the retired National Park Service employee who challenged the cross, did not have legal standing to sue. Thomas joined Scalia's concurrence.

In 2001, Buono, who had worked at the Mojave preserve, contended he was offended by the cross' display on public property on which other types of displays were not permitted. The cross has been described as being between five and eight feet in height.

Congress' land-transfer law called for a swap of the land on which the cross stands for another piece of privately owned land in the preserve.

In addition to the VFW and ADF, other organizations submitting friend-of-the-court briefs in support of the government included the American Center for Law and Justice, American Legion Department of California, Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, Boy Scouts of America, Christian Legal Society, and Liberty Counsel.

Among those supporting Buono with friend-of-the-court briefs were the American Humanist Association, American Jewish Congress, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, Baptist Joint Committee on Religious Liberty, Freedom From Religion Foundation, and Jewish War Veterans of the United States.

Looking back

10 years ago

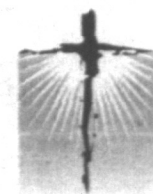
Vermont's governor on April 26 signs into law landmark legislation granting the full benefits of marriage to homosexual and lesbian couples in the state, prompting warnings from opponents that it could spawn similar legislation in other states.

20 years ago

During a closed-door session that lasts more than four hours, Southern Seminary trustees debate responses to a 16-page document presented by trustee Jerry Johnson accusing seminary president Roy L. Honeycutt of "doctrinal infidelity."

50 years ago

One hundred and seventy-two pastors, associational superintendents of missions, and other local and denominational leaders register for the first week of activities at the new Gulfshore Baptist Assembly.



MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

PUBLISHED SINCE 1877

MAY 6, 2010

VOL. 134

No. 18



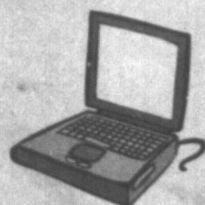
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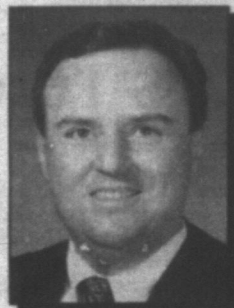
1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.



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Postmaster:
Send changes of address to: The
BAPTIST RECORD, P.O. Box 530,
Jackson, MS 39205-0530.

Send news, communication, and
address changes to: The Editor,
BAPTIST RECORD, P.O. Box 530,
Jackson, MS 39205-0530.

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VOLUME 134 • NUMBER 18
(ISSN-0005-5778)

Published weekly except weeks of July 4
and Christmas by the Mississippi Baptist
Convention Board, 515 Mississippi Street,
Jackson, MS 39201. Subscription \$10.35 per
year payable in advance. Economy plans
available for cooperating Mississippi churches.
Periodicals postage paid at Jackson, MS.
Member, Association of State Baptist Papers.
Deadlines: News items — one calendar
week prior to requested publication date.
Advertising — two calendar weeks prior to
requested publication date. All submissions
are subject to editing.

Got a spare \$19.25 million?

Yawn. Here we go again: "Have you heard? Proctor and Gamble is full of Satan worshippers. The company president said so, on television! Don't believe it? Just look at their logo!"

A statement similar to that cost four Utah residents \$19.25 million in 2007. That's the amount Proctor and Gamble, the nation's largest consumer products company, was awarded by a federal jury in Salt Lake City.

Unless you have a similar amount of money from which you don't mind soon being parted, perhaps you should take heed.

First of all, the age-old rumor about Satanism, Proctor and Gamble, and its famous moon-and-stars logo is a lie. Pure and simple. If you repeat it, you're a liar. If you're a Christian and you repeat it, you'd better check up on what the Bible has to say about false witness.

The mess in Utah began when Randy L. Haugen circulated another person's Satanism rumor about Proctor and Gamble through an automated phone message system. As distribution of the rumor multiplied beyond anything Haugen probably could have imagined, a version of it inevitably turned up at Proctor and Gamble headquarters in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Companies take their public image seriously. "This is about protecting our reputation," Jim Johnson, Proctor and Gamble's chief legal counsel, told Associated Press.

Another rumor that never seems to die is the old saw that the late, famed atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hare is working to get all Christian programming removed from television. Again, not true. Such a feat would be hard to accomplish from the grave.

The latest variation of the endless O'Hare tale involves James Dobson, founder of Focus on the Family. So rampant is that rumor

"THERE'S A RUMOR THE MINISTER HAS SOLD HIS SOUL TO THE GROUNDHOG!"



that the Focus on the Family web site carries a special disclaimer that Dobson and Focus on the Family are not involved in any way in authenticating and distributing the O'Hare rumor.

Simply put, you can't believe everything you hear and read — especially on the Internet. It is a rare week that the offices of The Baptist Record fail to receive a frantic e-mail or phone call about the latest threat to Christianity. All of them — all — turn out to be rumors.

Christians should be smarter than that. It does not elevate our Kingdom work nor glorify our Savior to spread baseless rumors and indulge ear-tickling lies. Such behavior actually diminishes our witness by proving that we're no different than the world when it comes to truth, gossip, and rumor-mongering.

This is especially the case when there are so many ways open to us to check out these rumors. The first way is to visit the company's web site or call their toll-free customer service telephone number. Chances are, you won't be the first call they receive.

Secondly, there are many good Internet sites (not necessarily Christian) that research and refute such rumors. Two such sites are www.snopes.com, and <http://urbanlegends.about.com>. Anyone with a computer and two minutes of free time can avail themselves of these free services.

Thirdly, the mass media are frequently full of articles and reports that explode these rumors. All we need to do is pay attention.

Don't fall for these rumors, some of which are undoubtedly designed and promulgated by detractors with the intention of making Christians look bad. Any amount of time we devote to such fruitless activities takes away from the time we could be accomplishing Kingdom work.

If we're not focused on Jesus and Kingdom work, then why are we Christians?

GUEST OPINION:

Strengthen the church, win the lost

By Ron Herrod
Sevierville, Tn.



would say that was an era which is now past.

New research has once again indicated that churches who schedule and use evangelistic events experience significantly more conversions and baptisms than those who do not plan such events. The research goes a step further and indicates that the number of baptisms was even higher for those churches who used vocational evangelists. The details of this new research will be fully revealed in May.

This research reinforces some of the reasons for the Baptism Assistance Project. This is a strategy that provides a vocational evangelist for our low- and no-baptism churches at little or no cost to the church. No doubt, there are many reasons so many of our churches are not seeing people saved, but one reason must be the

decrease in the number of evangelistic events and the failure to use the ones given by God to the church to help with the harvest. Now, through the Baptism Assistance Project, even the smallest of our churches have the opportunity to use a vocational evangelist.

I am saddened that many of our called, gifted, and dedicated evangelists wait for a call to serve while hundreds of our churches go week after week without a harvest. Pastors and evangelists have made mistakes and experienced failures through the years. But now in these crises days, pastors need the gifted evangelist and our evangelists need the support of the local church.

We really do need each other. Why don't we get together unselfishly and assist one another bringing in the harvest?

You will be blessed by scheduling a vocational evangelist for an evangelistic event in your church during the next 12 months. Pray about whom God wants you to use in your church. Then call that evangelist immediately. You may think your church is too small or too large to use a vocational evangelist, but neither is true. These evangelists are ready to go anywhere, anytime and will come by faith. Then it is your job to take care of the man of God. God will bless this biblical strategy.

This year at the SBC annual meeting in Orlando many of our evangelists will participate in Crossover to help reach lost people. Our evangelists will provide an exciting and inspirational worship service on Wednesday afternoon at the Orange County Convention Center in the same location as the Southern Baptist Convention meetings. The theme for this meeting is, Reviving the Church, Renewing the Nation, Restoring Hope! This is another way our evangelists are seeking to be a blessing to our pastors and churches.

Herrod is an evangelist based in Sevierville, Tn. His commentary appears courtesy of Baptist Press.

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS

—Matthew 10:27 NAS

May 6, 2010

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.

BIBLE DRILL CAMP is open to churches and campers whether they have done Bible Drill before or not. This camp is designed for church groups to come and stay together. Each church group must have an adult male sponsor for every 5 boys (or portion thereof) and an adult female sponsor for every 5 girls (or portion thereof).

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Preacher: Sonny Adkins

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ORFHRWAGH. FRJC
WPJSS: WLSHWQ-HAHS.

Clue: X = B

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: John Six: Forty-five

WARTS

It was toward the end of school and they were having an Awards Day. One of my grandkids received some awards for achievements over the year and her parents and grandparents were proud of her, as they should be. At the end of the day as mom was bringing the kids home from school they were talking about the awards and the younger brother was listening to all of the positive words and accolades that were coming his sister's way about the awards that she had received. After hearing about all of the praise and good talk he could stand about the awards, from the back of the car he blurted out, "Well, I have warts too!" Sure enough, he does have warts, but unfortunately, he did not understand that they were talking about awards and not warts.

As we come to Mother's Day, I wanted to take this opportunity to share with you some thoughts about warts. It is for sure that we all have them whether they look like the warts that little kids may have on their fingers or they may be emotional or mental. We all have those little factors that may be detracting, deficient, or even embarrassing to us, which leads to the saying I hear quite often that it is a wonderful thing when people accept you and love you warts and all. Here at Mother's Day I hope it will be helpful to think about the warts that you may have and the ones that you may pass along to your children.

The Bible has some specific instructions to parents that we are to give guidance not from us as much as from the Lord and instill within our children a healthy understanding and appreciation of the wisdom and good guidance that God can provide for us. Children desperately need care, spiritual concern, and understanding or they will end up with more warts than we could ever imagine. Someone once said that children are like wet cement. In that light they pick-up all kinds of markings, etchings, touches of love or even

things that should not be repeated. With that in mind, think about two areas that are so vitally important for parents to remember as they love, lead, and instruct their children.

First, children will pick up our imperfections quickly. A person once said to me that they wished that they had a perfect dad. Well, like it or not, every one of us could have wished for that all the way back to Cain and Abel. And in time the person who was wishing to have perfect kids could also realize that back to Adam and Eve there have been kids that at some point and in some way disappointed their parents. Our children pick up on our imperfections. It is not always the first word but it is among the first two or three words that a child learns. It is one syllable, two letters, and it is "no." They begin to tell other people no. They tell their mother and daddy no. They seem to be rebellious. They seem to be self-centered. They want to have their way and so they say no. Where do you think they get that?

Well, of course, all of us well-meaning parents try to teach our children that there are things that they should do, say, places they should not go, and actions they should not repeat so we tell them no. They are fast learners and they pick up on what we give them. Oftentimes, it is our imperfections. Long term and multiple studies have shown that children who are abused by their parents will often become abusers themselves. While we are always surprised at the statistical results of such thoughts, we should not be surprised at all that children pick up on our

Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

imperfections. Generally, they think that they are proper because they got them from us and they pass them on to their children just as they were passed on to us.

Secondly, think about this, which is a little more subtle but all together just as significant. They pick up on our impressions. They begin to understand our opinions or attitudes, and our view of life. Though we never sit down and write a book about those things sometimes they begin to understand them as we indicate something of displeasure through a smirk or non-verbal look of disgust. They quickly begin to learn of our impressions about life. While we spend a lot of time wanting to teach our children to talk, to walk, to read, and to accomplish things in life, they spend most of their days around us picking up the more subtle and yet more significant things as we teach them what we think about others, life, leaders, sports teams, church, and even God.

We wonder where they get some of those feelings, ideas, and concepts. If we could walk around and see ourselves at our best and at our worst, we would get the same impression that our children do. It is no wonder that God would place in the list of commandments that are our guideposts for life and the family, "Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee" (Ex. 20:12). More often than not, we see that verse and think the children need to start living up to it. They do have a responsibility, but please notice that there is a weighty responsibility for the parents also. The mom and dad are to have lives that are honorable.

Here at Mother's Day, I do not want to just hand out guilt and grief for the things that you did or did not do and you wish that you could go back and redo. More importantly, I want you to think about the fact that all of us have warts and because we do we desperately need a work of God and His grace and love in our lives to fill in the things that we left out, to reclaim the things that we messed up, and to bless the things that we tried to do right. Moms and dads may struggle with a lot of issues and so may their kids, but today will be a day of awards in spite of warts.

The author can be contacted at jfutral@mbcb.org.

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2010

MISSISSIPPI BSU SUMMER AND SEMESTER MISSIONARIES



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MSU
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South America



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HINDS
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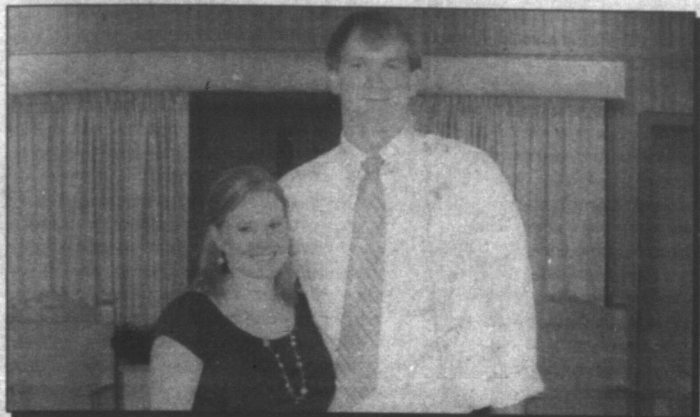


Justin Watson
NECC
Africa

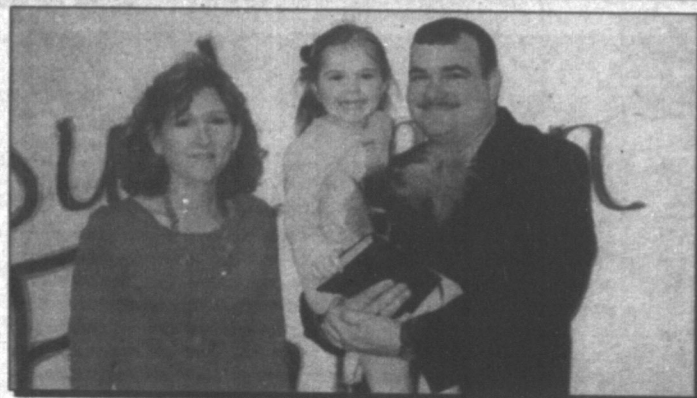
STAFF CHANGES



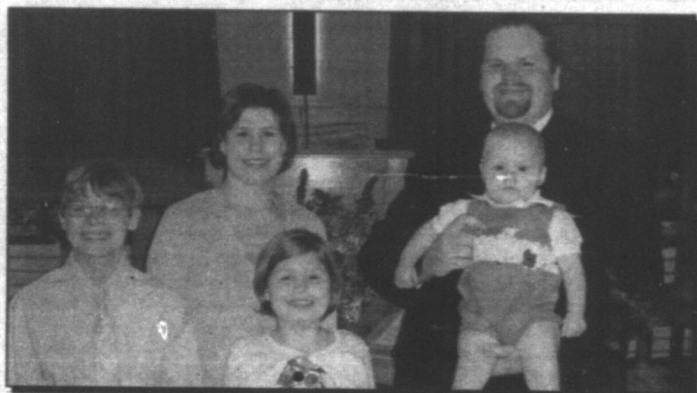
1. The Abbotts



2. The Ingrams



3. The Buchanans



4. The Busbys

1. **East Moss Point Church, Moss Point**, has called David Abbott as pastor. He has pastored churches in Mississippi and Alabama, and has also served as AMD in the Jasper Association. He is shown with his wife Janell.
2. **Temple Church, Grenada**, has called Joseph Ingram as pastor. He is shown with his wife Elizabeth.
3. **First Church, Pearl** has called Jeff Buchanan as pastor. He is shown with his wife Stacy Ann and daughter Lydia Grace.
4. **Ruth Church, Ruth** has called Jared Busby as pastor. He is a student at New Orleans Seminary and comes from Mt. Zion Church, Osyka, where he served as youth minister. He and his wife Bethany have three children - Damian, Dianna, and Dayton.



REVIVALS AND HOMECOMINGS

1. **New Ireland Church, Union:** Revival, May 16 - 19; Sun., 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Paul Blanchard, speaker; Thomas Fortenberry, music; Jonathan Peeples, pastor.
2. **Blackwater Church, Kemper Association:** Homecoming and revival, May 16 - 19; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by lunch; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; James Gipson, speaker; Jimmy Sanders, pastor.
3. **Concord Church, Booneville:** Homecoming and Mother's Day program, May 9; services, 10:30 a.m., followed by lunch; Robert E. Walker, pastor.
4. **Shiloh Church, Port Gibson:** Revival, May 16 - 19; Sun., Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by lunch; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Jim Futral, speaker; Aaron and Amy Walker, music; Carroll Walker, pastor.
5. **Thorn Hill Church, Pelahatchie:** Homecoming, May 23; Sunday School, 10 a.m., followed by worship at 11 and dinner on the ground; gospel singing featuring the Fair River Junction Band; Scott Walters, speaker.
6. **Mont Rose Church, Quitman:** Homecoming, May 23; services, 10:30 a.m., followed by fellowship dinner; Robert Haney, speaker; Doug Jones, pastor.
7. **First Church, Belzoni:** Revival, May 23 - 26; Sun., 6 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; covered dish supper Mon. - Wed., 6 p.m.; Jim Ray, Jerry Mixon, Glenn Shows, and Jimmy Porter, speakers; Everette Solie, music; George Johnson, pastor.

Arkansas Baptist Home for Children, Monticello, AR Employment Opportunities

- Houseparent Couple
 - Recreation and Farm Manager at Baptist Home for Children in Monticello, AR
- Responsible for overseeing the recreational program, including the horse program. Salary and excellent benefits.
- Contact Randy Luper at 1.870.367.5358 or rluper@abchomes.org • www.abchomes.org

MS POSITIONS

FBC MATHISTON SEEKS A PART-TIME Minister of Music. Please send resumes to: P.O. Box 260, Mathiston, MS 39752 or contact the church office at 662-263-5323. Resumes may be mailed to mathistonfbc@bellsouth.net.

MORRISON CHAPEL BAPTIST Church, Cleveland, Mississippi is seeking an Associate/Youth Pastor. Candidate should be passionate about introducing youth to Jesus Christ and helping them develop and grow. MCBC is currently building a new sanctuary increasing capacity from 200-400. Submit resume to: Brad Keeton 501 South Leflore, Cleveland, MS 38732. bradkeeton@bellsouth.net

LONGINO BAPTIST CHURCH IN Philadelphia, MS is seeking a bi-vocational music minister. For more

information, contact Bro. Matthew White @ 601-656-8794.

FBC, SARDIS, MS. IS SEEKING A P/T Minister of Music and a P/T Youth Minister or a P/T Music/Youth Minister. Send resumes to Search Committee, FBC, Sardis, 108 West Lee St., Sardis, Ms. 38666 or fax to 662-487-2505 or e-mail to fbc@sardis@bellsouth.net. Telephone 662-487-2503.

PART-TIME SECRETARY - 15 - 20 hours a week. QuickBooks experience preferred. Please send resume to Pineview Baptist Church 1288 Clinton-Raymond Rd Clinton, MS 39056 or email it to pineviewbc@bellsouth.net

FBC, BYHALIA, MS, A SOUTHERN Baptist congregation in the greater Memphis area, is seeking F/T Pastor with seminary degree and 5 yrs. Pastoral experience. Resumes will be

accepted thru May 31. Send to FBC Pastor Search Committee, PO Box 246, Byhalia, MS, 38611.

FBC FLORA IS SEEKING A P/T Children's Minister. Please send resumes to P.O. Box 163, Flora, MS 39071 Or E-mail to jcole@fbcflora.org

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH is seeking a P/T Minister of Music. Send resumes to Minister of Music Search Committee, 1491 Fyfe Rd., Starkville, MS 39759 or e-mail to fellowshipb@bellsouth.net

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH IN McComb, MS is seeking a Minister of Music/Worship Leader. Traditional and blended services. Resumes may be sent to 719 3rd Street, McComb, MS 39648; fax: 601-684-1642; email: sfcammack@bellsouth.net. Phone: 601-684-1577.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MT. OLIVE is now accepting resumes for a full-time Minister of Administration & Education. Please submit resumes or questions by e-mail to sheila@fbcmo.org.

BAPTIST MINISTER WITH 30 YEARS experience seeking employment in the following areas: Pastor, Associate Pastor, pulpit supply, or revivals. Please contact: Rev. Richard C. Arceneaux at 601-384-0473 or email: rcarceneaux@cox.net

WANTED: COPYRIGHT 1991 WHITE Gold THE BAPTIST HYMNAL in good condition. Will consider other colors. Interested in a minimum of 24. Call River Bend Baptist Church, Aberdeen 662-369-3003 or email rbend@bellsouth.net.

CARROLL BAPTIST CHURCH, WALKER, LA is now receiving resumes for pastor. Please send them to P.O. Box 222, Walker, LA 70785 and to the attention of the Pastor Search Team. Cut-off date is May 31st. If you have any questions give me a call at (225) 936-0200. I am serving as the transitional Pastor at this time. Thanks!

TWO ORLANDO CONDOS AVAILABLE for June 4-11. Both are two-bedrooms (sleep 4-6) at Calypso Cay Resort (calypsocay.com), 7 nights, have kitchens and are only \$1000.00 each. Call Allen @ 601-527-2829.

BOOK FOR SALE: "GOD'S ENCOUNTER With Man", one of the greatest books on Salvation since the New Testament. Every Christian should own one; every Minister, Sunday School Teachers, every Christian. \$12.99. Order from Dr. Tom Wood, 293 Driftwood Drive, Meridian, Ms. 39305.

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SEBREN'S SIDING, JACKSON, Christian owned. All home improvements, vinyl siding, windows, metal and shingle roofs, patio covers, screen and glass rooms. 601-992-2092, Don & Rita Sebren, owners.

SENIOR PASTOR WANTED. OUR church averages 950 in worship. Currently we have three Sunday morning services as well as Sunday evening and Wednesday evening services. Send resumes to: Search Team, 501 W. Sixth St., Muscle Shoals, AL 35661 or searchteam@hpbaptist.com

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Pray this day for...

MAY 7-20, 2010

Prayer Ministry Office • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 601-292-304 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-7729 (PRAY)

"Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the voice of the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams."

I Samuel 15:22

MOTHER'S DAY
Thank God for godly mothers. Pray for mothers who do not yet know Christ to hear and respond to the gospel. Pray for God to open doors for mothers in poverty to have the means to feed and clothe their children.

Pray for Robby and Felesha Rowland and their family from Ripley along with two others as they travel to Ukraine to spend their summer serving and working among students in Poltava.

A team of students from Ole Miss is traveling to India. Pray for them as they do evangelism, discipleship and church planting in an area with many unreached people. Pray for their physical health and protection against the powers of darkness.

Pray for a team led by the **Calhoun Baptist Association** as they travel to Peru to do evangelism and leadership training among their adopted people group.

Pray for the outreach in the USA to people from other lands who are here to study and work. Pray for a positive Christian exposure while here and for the love and gospel of Christ to be shared with them.

Pray for a **BSU group from William Carey University** as they travel to Peru to work in church planting.

Pray for those who are in chains this very day for their faith. Pray for their strength to love their enemies and not deny their Lord. Pray for God's supernatural strength for the things they must endure and face each day. Pray that we will not forget them.

Pray for **more than 200 MS BSU students** who are preparing to venture out to summer missions assignments all around North America and the world.

Pray for a team of **students from Ole Miss BSU** as they travel to do evangelism and discipleship to an unreached people group in Peru.

Pray for a team from **FBC, Grenada**, as they travel to Ukraine to do evangelical missions through medicine. Pray that meeting physical needs will lead to many opportunities to share the gospel and treat the spiritual needs of the people in Ukraine.

Pray for: (1) Witnessing Throuh Media (CS); (2) Donna Reine and her sons from Vicksburg, MS as they live and serve in Vancouver, Canada with the Urban Village Church. This is a church plant that has been significantly supported by MS Baptists.

Pray for the people affected by the tornado that destroyed so much of Mississippi. Pray for much needed legitimate help to quickly arrive. Pray for discernment of those who may not be legitimate.

Teams from MSU BSU and Delta State BSU are leaving for a trip to multiple locations in China. Ten summer missionaries to China are traveling today as well. Pray for these college students as they seek to share the Gospel.

Praise God for His sovereign rule over every square inch of the universe. Pray that He will use each of us every day to be His hands, feet and voice to whomever we come in contact with.



ADOPT-A-SUMMER MISSIONARY

MISSISSIPPI BSU

Pastors

WMU Leaders

- 2010 is the **63rd** year of Mississippi Baptists sending summer missionaries.
- This year, more than **220** students will serve. **This is the largest group of summer missionaries ever sent out by Mississippi Baptists.**
- Students will raise more than **\$250,000** to be able to serve this summer.

YOUR CHURCH CAN BE A PART OF SUPPORTING OUR MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST SUMMER MISSIONARIES!

You can support these students in several ways:

Spiritual - Praying for these students.

Physical - Helping students with small things they may need such as toiletries, gift cards, stamps, etc. Once you have adopted a student, you can contact them and find out their specific needs.

DEADLINE: MAY 15!

To adopt a summer missionary, please contact Peggy Powell in the Collegiate Ministry Department, ppowell@mbcb.org or 601.292.3299.

www.missionsnow.net

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Parents: John & Claudia
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Parents: Brad & Lenora
Last Frontier

7/18/08
MR. BENJAMIN WORTHY
Parents: Charles & Shannon
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7/26/96
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Parents: J & P
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HOUSE TOPS

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE I Take You

Genesis 2:23-25; Malachi 2:13-15; Matthew 19:3-12

By Marion D. Duncan

"This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called woman, because she was taken out of man"—the declaration of acceptance, admission of completion, and commitment of unity expressed in Adam's marriage vow to Eve in the presence of God. Adam declared, "She is the rest of me, I am complete, and we are one committed to unity."

From the beginning for those who marry, it was God's intention for marriage to be a lifetime commitment addressing our need for the security from such a commitment. "For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and they shall become one flesh." (Genesis 2:24) Leaving father and mother is a formal separation, like a wedding—relationship priorities

shift from parents to spouse. This commitment between husband and wife was the underlying principle in establishing the institution of marriage. God's purpose was for Adam and Eve to become one flesh fulfilling His desire for a godly seed (race), a covenant people of a pure religion.

Man's life, including home life, was established in innocence. "The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame." (2:25) "The thought seems to be that of chastity and moral purity. From beginning to end God has demanded purity in the relationship between the sexes. It is only within the marriage bond that sexual desires can be legitimately satisfied." (Exploring Genesis, by John Phillips)

Malachi begins with the tender words of the Lord, "I have loved you," and sets before his listener's the unchanging love

of God. He indicted the priests who failed to serve as true priests. (Malachi 2:1-9) Then he addressed the sins of his society, the first being the people's faithlessness to the Father of all Israel, the covenant-keeping God who covenanted with them to be His

special people and receive His blessing. "Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then . . . you will be my treasured possession . . . a kingdom of priests and a holy nation." (Exodus 19:5-6a)

A second being, . . . that you took to wife. . . not one of your own people but a foreign (unbelieving) woman, is bad enough; but that you already have a Jewish wife and bring into the house a foreign (unbelieving) woman as chief wife is unpardonable." (Broadman Bible Commentary, vol.7) Jewish men were "dealing treacherously"—being faithless—with the wives of their youth, their covenant wives. Mixed faith marriages and divorce defeated God's creative purpose. Marriage to unbe-

lievers violated the spiritual oneness Israel had with the Father.

In Matthew's account of the Lord's only definitive teaching on divorce, a "loaded" question was asked by the Pharisees seeking to embroil Him in a controversy between the schools of Hillel and Shammai. Hillel maintained a generous attitude toward a husband's divorcing his wife for all sorts of reasons: he no longer loved her, she burned his dinner, she went out with her head uncovered, or she was childless. Shammai was stricter and permitted divorce only for fornication, adultery, or some other form of unchastity. (Exploring the Gospels: Matthew, by John Phillips) Instead of satisfying the Pharisees' desire to trap Him, Jesus simply directed His questioners to the teaching about the permanence of marriage contained in the Bible in the beginning.

God ordained marriage to be the fundamental principle of order in society. In the first marriage, there was no possibility for polygamy or divorce—there was only one man and

only one woman. This truth reiterates God's intent—one man for one woman united until death parts them. In answering the Pharisees, the Lord added His own authoritative decree: "What therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder." (Matthew 19:6) The prerequisite for an ideal marriage is a man and a woman sharing the same faith in God building a marriage with God as the cornerstone.

The question concerning Moses' permitting a man to give his wife a bill of divorce was introduced. Jesus answered that what Moses said was not a law, but a concession in view of a lost ideal. He only permitted divorce in order to regulate the situation the people had created. Jesus referred them to the ideal established in the beginning—one man married to one woman becoming indissolubly one.

God's love is perfect and unconditional and always available to us regardless of our situation.

Duncan is a member of First Church, Macon.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE How do you contribute?

Exodus 35:4-9, 30-36:1; 40:12-15

By Shelby Hazzard

Are you willing to contribute?

Ex. 35:4-9

Exodus 35:4-5 - Moses said to the whole Israelite community, This is what the Lord has commanded: From what you have, take an offering for the Lord.

The horror of the golden calf was over, the camp had been purified and God was now ready to construct the Tabernacle. Moses was given the new stone tablets and reminded them of Sabbath rest. He "assembled the whole Israelite community" to ready them to contribute to the Tabernacle. He asked everyone who "was willing" to "bring an offering to the Lord." He then describes materials needed in verses 5-9 and who gave in verses 10-29.

God has invited and commanded every Christian to par-

ticipate and contribute to His ministry.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 says, Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

As a 40 year old minister and 14 year Christian, I have noticed that the assembly has slowly drifted into a consumer instead of contributor mindset. Many that participate in the assembly today come to be served rather than to serve.

Do you have skills to use?

Ex 35:30-36:1

Exodus 36:1 - So Bezalel, Oholiab and every skilled person to whom the Lord has given skill and ability to know how to carry out all the work of constructing the sanctuary are to do

the work just as the Lord has commanded.

For every task, God always has gifted servants and within the Israelites, He had equipped two men for constructing the tabernacle, Bezalel and Oholiab. "The Lord had chosen Bezalel," and "filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts. . . and He has given both him and Oholiab the ability to teach others."

Notice that "the enabling of the Spirit must flow along the channel of the word. The inward prompting of the individual heart and the willing gifts are bracketed by the Lord's gift of wisdom and the people's gift of sufficient resources for all the work. Human wisdom is not enough for the work of God; there has to be an outpouring of heavenly wisdom. And yet without consecrated giving the work would remain undone and the awesome reality of the indwelling of God would be unrealized." (J.A.

Motyer, The Bible Speaks Today, pg 321)

As God equipped Bezalel and Oholiab to build the Tabernacle, He continues to equip and provide believers today with gifts and abilities to build His church, for we are created to glorify Him not ourselves!

Is the Lord calling you to serve? Ex 40:12-15

Exodus 40:12 - Bring Aaron and his sons to the entrance to the Tent of Meeting and wash them with water. Then dress Aaron in the sacred garments, anoint him and consecrate him so he may serve me as priest. Bring his sons and dress them in tunics. Anoint them just as you anointed their father, so they may serve me as priests. Their anointing will be to a priesthood that will continue for all generations to come.

Aaron and his sons are set apart by God to fulfill the office of the priesthood. The Bible describes the process of their ordination, ministry and supplies used (Lev 8, Ex 28-29). It is important for us to remember the permanency of the priesthood. The priesthood is an

office ultimately fulfilled by Christ, but believers are presently considered "living stones, being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ," (1 Peter 2:5). Each believer is a "living stone," however, within the stones, there are specific gifts and structure as Eph 4:11-13 says, "It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service. . ."

Each Christian is a part of the holy priesthood, possessing specific gifts and skills endowed by God to be used to glorify Christ and build His church. As C.H. Spurgeon would say, "Dear Reader, you are called to contribute and serve the Living God! What skills and materials has God provided you to provide His church and when will you begin to be obedient to Him?"

Hazzard is minister of evangelism, First Church, Greenville.

Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.

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Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if

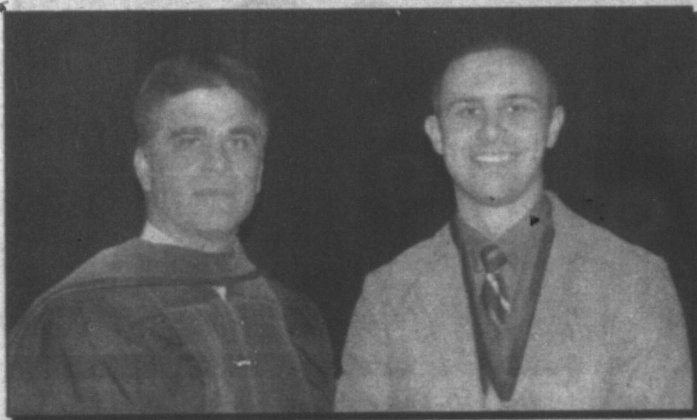
submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution photos are generally not publishable. Photographs can not be returned. Please do not attach photos with tape or staples.

All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis.

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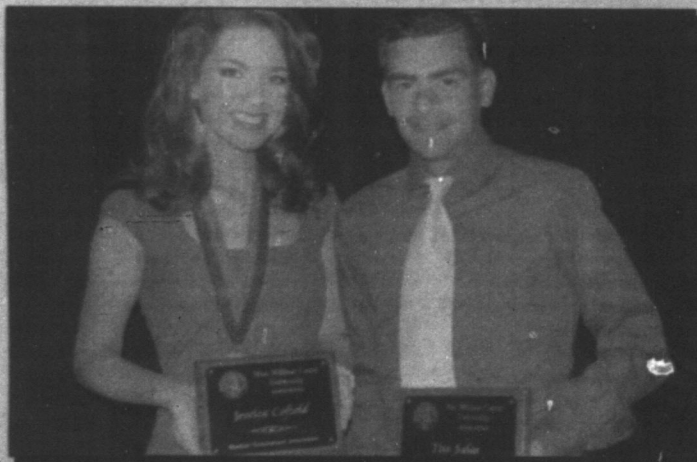
COLLEGE NEWS



1. Caldwell and Brown



2. Waldrip and Moore



3. Cofield and Salas



4. Caldwell and the Mixons

1. William Carey University students were honored at the Honors Convocation held recently on the Hattiesburg campus. This annual event is set aside for student and faculty to be honored for their achievements and for scholarship donors and recipients to be recognized. Daniel Caldwell, dean of the Coopers School of Music and Biblical Studies, presented Seth Brown of Hattiesburg with the J. E. Byrd Memorial Award for students in church related vocations.

2. Recognized during Honors Convocation at William Carey University were administrator of the year Brenda Waldrip, vice president of student services, and the staff member of the year Wendy Moore, director of student support services. Not pictured is the outstanding faculty member of the year, Jonathan Brooke, assistant professor of history, and Susan Gibson, assistant professor of psychology, who received the Faculty Research Award.

3. William Carey University students Jessica Cofield of Wiggins and Tito Salas of Dallas, Tx. Were recognized as Mr. and Miss WCU during Honors Convocation held recently on the Hattiesburg campus. Mr. and Miss WCU are voted on by the student body as students who best represent the values of the school.

4. Daniel Caldwell, dean of the Cooper School of Missions at William Carey University; Jerry Mixon, stewardship director, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, recipient of the William Carey



5. WCU homecoming court



6. McCay, the Ormans, and Dale

ent of the William Carey University Circle of Excellence Award from the Cooper School of Missions; and Victoria Beech Mixon, wife of Jerry; are shown following the Circle of Excellence Award Dinner held recently during Homecoming on the Hattiesburg campus.

5. Members of the William Carey University Homecoming Court are freshman maids Emily Guthrie of Purvis and Shelby Ryals of Sumrall; sophomore maids Brittani Clark of Magnolia and Callie Merrill of Pascagoula; Homecoming Queen Maggie Moore of Hattiesburg; senior maids Melissa Moore of Hattiesburg and Katherine Murray of Brandon; and junior maids Whitney Hunt of Franklinton, La. and Nafiyah Younes of Picayune. An education

major originally from Tuscaloosa, Ala., Moore won fourth runner up in the 2010 Miss William Carey University Pageant.

6. Jim McCay, assistant professor of business; Pamela Harvey Orman, recipient of the William Carey University Circle of Excellence Award from the School of Business; Charles Orman, husband of Pamela; and Dr. Cheryl Dale, dean of the school of business, are pictured here following the awards dinner held during Homecoming.



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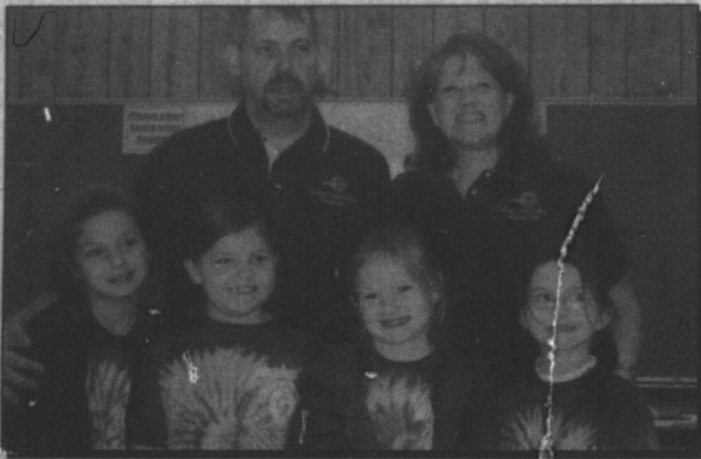
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JUST FOR THE RECORD



5. First Church, New Albany



6. Goodwater Church, Magee



7. Taylor ordination



8. The Collins

1. **First Church, Vardaman**, is planning a centennial celebration. All former staff members are urged to contact the church at (662) 682-7458, via email at fbcv@tds.net, or by snail mail at P.O. Box 173, Vardaman, MS 38878.
2. **Pastor Ken White of New Prospect Church, Oxford**, was presented a certificate by Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, recognizing the church's 100 year anniversary Apr. 25.
3. **Grace Church, Vicksburg**, received \$1455 for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, surpassing their goal of \$500. Carolyn Ouzts, WMU leader; Bryan Abel, pastor.
4. **First Church, Morton**, is hosting nationally known Christian ventriloquist Geraldine Ragan and Ricky May 16, 6 p.m. Earl Clark, pastor.
5. **The Acteens of First Church, New Albany**, sewed buttons on dresses donated by Kathryn Dye. The dresses will be sent to the mission field. Shown are the participants.
6. **Girls and mothers from Goodwater Church, Magee**, recently attended the GA Mother/Daughter overnighter at Garaywa Camp & Conference Center. Shown are Anna Claire Walker, Brooklyn Herrington, Chloe Booth, and Grace Rankin.
7. **Friendship Church, McComb**, ordained David M. Taylor to the gospel ministry in music Apr. 25. He serves as minister of music at Montgomery Church, Lincoln County. Shown are Charles Moak, Montgomery Church pastor Mike McKee, Zion Church pastor Glenn Bird (Taylor's father), Taylor, Friendship Church pastor LaVerne Summerlin, James Earl White, and David Blailock.
8. **Prairie Church, Prairie**, honored pastor George Collins, Jr., and his wife Mildred for five years of service Apr. 11 with a surprise cake and certificate, singing, fellowship, and performance by Heaven's Highway. Shown are the Collins.
9. **Brandon Church, Brandon**, broke ground on their new multipurpose building Apr. 22. Shown are the participants. Clarence Cooper, pastor.
10. **Salem Church, Metro Association**, will host David Ring May 11, with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. and service at 6:30 p.m.
11. **Antioch Church, Brandon: Vacation Bible School, June 6-10, 6-9 p.m. Commencement June 11, 6 p.m.**
12. **Lakeside Church, Hattiesburg**, observed their third annual presentation of the Nailing Mar. 13, followed by communion, a candlelight service, food and fellowship.
13. **Shady Grove Church and Bexely Church, Lucedale**, are hosting "America's Favorite Fisherman" Jimmy Houston at the George County Multi-Purpose Center, 3 p.m. Donations taken at the door; door prizes provided by Academy Sports, Bows-R-Us, Bufkin Marine, and Bullz I Sports.



9. Brandon Church, Brandon

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